

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FMC-04

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CG-00 COA-02 DLOS-06 EA-11 PA-04

PRS-01 USIA-15 DRC-01 /077 W
----- 114911

R 291115Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4347

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

INFO AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA UNN

AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE UNN

AMEMBASSY KIGALI UNN

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES UNN

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMCONSUL ZANZIBAR UNN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECON, ETRN, ETRD, TZ, ZA

SUBJ: DAR PORT CONGESTION PROBLEM PREDICTED TO WORSEN IN
DECEMBER

REF: DAR ES SALAAM 3766

DEPARTMENT PASS MARITIME ADMINISTRATION

1. DAR ES SALAAM PORT CONGESTION PROBLEM CONTINUES TO WORSEN.
AS MANY AS 12 SHIPS STANDING OUTSIDE HARBOR AT ANY ONE TIME
AND SITUATION LIKELY TO WORSEN DURING DECEMBER. RESIDENT
DUTCH SHIPPING REPRESENTATIVE HAD CONVERSATION YESTERDAY WITH
SENIOR ZAMBIAN OFFICIAL OF TANZAM RAILROAD AUTHORITY WHO RE-
PORTED SEVEN PRC SHIPS ARE IN PORT OR SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE DAR
ES SALAAM BY DECEMBER 10 CARRYING 42,000 TONS TANZAM RAILROAD
CARGOS. CHINESE SPEEDING DELIVERY THESE CARGOS--WHICH PROBABLY
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REPRESENT MORE THAN ONE-FIFTH ANNUAL TONNAGE INTAKE FOR TANZAM

RAILROAD--TO BEAT LIGHT RAINS WHICH NORMALLY BEGIN ABOUT NOW. ALTHOUGH CHINESE SHIPS WILL NOT HAVE BERTHING PRIORITY, THEY ALONE WILL DISCHARGE TONNAGE EQUAL TO TWO-THIRDS AVERAGE MONTHLY TONNAGE ARRIVING IN DAR PORT. WE ALSO NOTE THAT CHINESE STILL NOT MOVING THEIR CARGOS OUT OF PORT AREA ON SPECIALLY CONSTRUCTED SPUR. THEREFORE, INCOMING TANZAM TONNAGE WILL HAVE TO PASS THROUGH PORT AREA ON TRUCKS LIKE ZAMBIAN CARGOS AND CREATE TRAFFIC PROBLEMS INSIDE PORT. ASSUMPTION IS, THEREFORE, THAT ONCE THESE CHINESE SHIPS PULL ALONGSIDE TO DISCHARGE THEY WILL CAUSE LENGTHENING OF QUEUE OUTSIDE PORT (OR, MORE LIKELY DIVERSION OF CARGOS TO NEARBY PORTS) AND, CONSEQUENTLY, LENGTHENING OF WAITING TIME BEFORE OTHER SHIPS CAN OBTAIN BERTHING SPACE.

2. FOLLOWING ARE FOOTNOTES TO POINTS DISCUSSED IN REFTEL:

(A) OCTOBER TONNAGE FIGURES, JUST RELEASED, SHOW BEGINNING OF LOWER PORT CARGO HANDLING CAPACITY: TOTAL OCTOBER TONNAGE 105,390 TONS VS. 141,774 TONS IN SEPTEMBER.

(B) SEPTEMBER ZAMBIAN IMPORT TONNAGE FIGURES CONFIRMED TO HAVE BEEN 30,010 TONS AS REPORTED IN REFTEL. ZAMBIAN OCTOBER TONNAGE WAS 30,485 TONS, OF WHICH 16,282 TONS ZAMBIAN COPPER EXPORTS.

(C) PALLET PROBLEMS MAY EASE SLIGHTLY IN COMING WEEKS. PORT AUTHORITY HAS FINALLY ADMITTED IT HAS PROBLEM IN THIS REGARD AND HAS ORDERED 5,000 NEW PALLETS. EVEN WITH THESE, SHORTAGE OF PALLETS WILL STILL EXIST AND ACT AS BRAKE ON SHIP DISCHARGE RATE.

CARTER

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